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Parks and Recreation Minutes 04/09/2002

Park and Recreation Commission Minutes

Tuesday, April 9, 2002 at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVED - Meeting Minutes

The Park and Recreation Commission meeting came to order at 7:30 PM.

Commissioners Present: Don Vitters, Leslie Mayer, Joe Carabello and Bernice Jones

Staff Present: Jon Jalbert and Bill Jones

Others Present: Rick Arena, Tom Cacavaro, Dick McGurl-Arlington Little League, Andrew Leonard

1. Minutes

The Commission reviewed the minutes of March 12, 2001 and approved 4-0.

2. Andrew Leonard-Leonard Designs Update on Projects

Thorndike Field- Irrigation is planned on being on April 17, 2002. Top dressing and irrigation will be reviewed and assessed by contractor soon. Geese issue, the contractor can lay some repellent down to help with Geese issue.

Parallel Park- Black top and seeding will begin next week. Public Works will be ordering and installing another picnic table.

Crosby Playground- Project is ahead of schedule. Sod will be installed in May. Black top will be put in next week.

Mr. Jalbert handed out petition and all the responses to the commissioners. Discussion on the tennis courts getting done as well and because of the \$150,000 cost and the need for the updated playground and soccer field, it was decided to hold off on the tennis courts until more funds were available. Mr. Vitters will speak with Jack Hurd and Alan McClennen to see if there are additional monies available for concrete wall and tennis courts.

Summer Street Field – Emanuel Brothers was awarded the contract, which will include all alternates. Babe Ruth has given Park Beautification Fund the funds to cover right field fence and warning track.

3. Arlington Little League – Dick McGurl

Mr. McGurl proposed installing a new base system at Scannell, Buck and Poets fields. Mr. McGurl will cover all costs and DPW would provide any assistance if needed. Mr. McGurl's new system would allow for easier location of the base from season to season and be safer than what is currently being used. Motion was made to accept proposal at Scannell, Buck and Poets infields. Motion approved 4-0.

Mr. McGurl also reported the field repair at Poets is currently underway.

4. Bocce Ball Court at Wellington Park- Rick Arena

Mr. Arena presented a proposal to install a Bocce Ball Court (76'x10') at Wellington Park behind the furthest tennis court from Grove St. Mr. Carabello wants to make sure Park Rules sign is posted near the court and that all rules would be followed especially concerning 9 p.m. closing time and no alcohol allowed. Mrs. Jones was concerned about the compatibility with other activities in the park and the noise level of the activity. The Park Commissioners requested the border not be pressure treated wood, a walk through to see exact location, and a layout of the court in

proximity of the park. Mr. Vitters will provide Mr. Arena the actual plans of Wellington Park and Mr. Arena will present his detailed plans at the May Commission meeting.

5. Arlington Sports Center Improvement Committee- Tom Cacavaro

Mr. Cacavaro discussed the postponement of the heating system because the project needs 60 days to complete, which would impact Recreation summer programs significantly. Mr. Jalbert was asked to figure out a game rate to cover the costs of heat and to include maintenance costs as well.

Mrs. Mayer recommended the Sports Center Improvement Committee change the meeting times to a more reasonable time to accommodate the general public. Concern was expressed that while the Improvement Committee conducts a Sports Center feasibility study there needs to be a rep. on the committee who focuses on general uses and concerns (including "off-season" needs and improvements). The commission stated Mark McCabe would be that representative.

Motion was made to endorse a feasibility study and approved 4-0.

Motion was made to change meeting times to PM and approved 4-0.

7. Public Works Update- Bill Jones

Mr. Jones stated the irrigation assessment on fields will begin this Friday and water will be on at all fields by May 1st. Schedule time for water to be on is 3-7 a.m.

The Park Commissioners requested that PTS be present at the May meeting to discuss issues with fertilization and aeration. Mr. Jones stated he would contact them and set it up.

8. Capital Project Review and CDBG update-Don Vitters

Mr. Vitters passed out meeting minutes from Carol Johnson on Robbins Farm and Spy Pond. Tentative meetings will be scheduled for these projects 4/23, 5/8, 5/15 and 5/22. Mr. Vitters will confirm with Carol Johnson and let Mr. Jalbert know to reserve the space and send out meeting notices.

Mrs. Mayer contacted Little League, police traffic and parking unit, and the transportation committee about Linwood Circle meeting. Mr. Carabello suggested contacting the Fire Chief as well. Once a date is set Mrs. Mayer will notify the Commissioners.

9. Board of Health Update- Joe Carabello

Mr. Carabello reported to the Commissioners about the BOH meeting. BOH recommended more testing in exposed areas and the Health Director will investigate further with the State.

Mrs. Mayer questioned what are the Parks Dept. doing when replacing railroad ties at playgrounds and suggested we recommend a solution. The Commission agreed and stated the Parks Dept. have all replacement railroad ties be painted over or non-pressure treated wood that does not have arsenic present be the substitute.

10. Recreation and Rink Update- Jon Jalbert

Mr. Jalbert presented a proposal for fee increases for this summer and fall. Motion made to accept fee increases and approved 4-0. Mr. Jalbert will send off request to Town Manager.

Mr. Jalbert informed the Commissioners on recent vandalism done to the recreation van and fields. Mrs. Mayer presented a drafted letter to Town Manager, Police Chief and Board of Selectmen regarding vandalism and increased monitoring at all Parks. Motion made to accept letter and send it on behalf of the Commission. Motion accepted 4-0.

11. Other

Mrs. Mayer noted about Res cleanup by the Arlington Reservoir Committee on 5/18 with rain date of 5/19. Park and Recreation will co-sponsor this event, along with Conservation Commission.

The Commission adjourned at 10:45 pm.

Jon Jalbert, Superintendent of Recreation, took minutes